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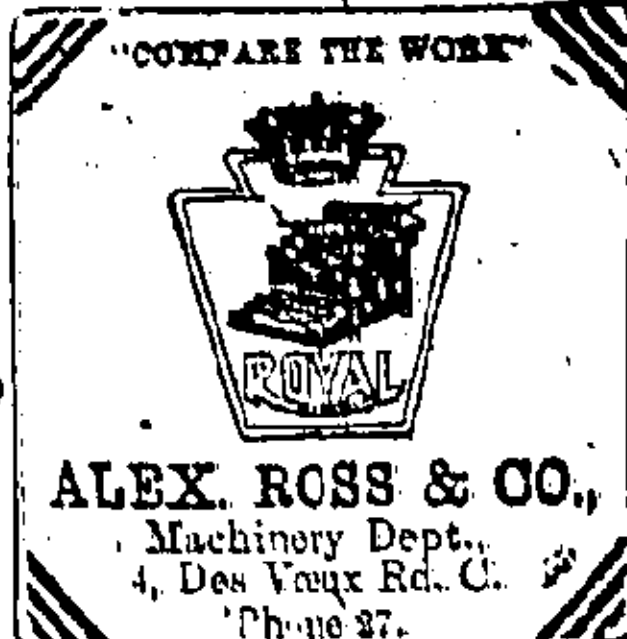
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號二十月九年九十壹百九千壹

HONGKONG, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1919.

日九十月七未己大歲年八國民華中

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TO-DAY'S CABLES.

LORD FISHER ON THE NAVY.

STRAIGHT TALK.

LONDON, Sept. 9.

Lord Fisher in a series of articles in the Times on the development of the Navy, describing the inauguration of his reforms says: "Scapa Flow was unsurveyed and nameless in 1905, when we sent a surveying vessel there. The result was that the fleet was stationed there before the war."

He declares that reactionaries derided battle cruisers. These "Mudlers" also had not carried out his plan for an armada of 612 vessels authorised by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Lloyd George, for the landing of a million Russians 82 miles from Berlin. These amphibian monsters were weather, shot, mine and torpedo proof, each holding masses of men, guns, horses and motors, and ploughing their way like huge hippopotami, and crawling up the shore like tanks.

The oil engine would have done in the engine which would yet revolutionize commerce and alter sea warfare.

Lord Fisher says that he re-enters the arena very reluctantly; but what was meant for privacy must be published to help economy. Drastic scrapping was as necessary as very life itself, as the nation condemned the "criminal folly of a silly crowd" who wanted the British Navy dispersed to the world. He says that the massacre of the Pegasus at Zanzibar was due to this absurd policy of isolated small craft in peace time. He deplores the fact that the mission of the battle cruiser was totally unappreciated till the invincible sank von Spee's squadron. The Goeben and the Breslau escaped because the battle cruisers in the Mediterranean were not used. If they had gobbled up the Goeben and the Breslau there would have been no Gallipoli and the Baltic would have been occupied. Berlin would have been captured by the Russians landing covered by the British Fleet. But the most striking feature of the pre-war period was the ridicule cast on the submarine.

When the young submarine commander, during pre-war manoeuvres twice torpedoed the hostile flagship he claimed it as a prize, but all the change he got was the Admiral's signal "you be damned." Lord Fisher quotes a memorandum he circulated in January 1914, wherein he said that the submarine was a coming type of warship for sea fighting. He declares that he was literally persecuted for building submarines while first Sea Lord. He says that when he left the Admiralty in January 1910 there were 61 efficient submarines and thirteen building; but when he returned in October 1914 there were only 51. So Lord Fisher summoned the Schwab, Bethlehem Steel Works who delivered a batch of submarines in five months. This was an unprecedented feat as fourteen months was the previous record. These submarines went to America and the Dardanelles unconquered and acted there prodigiously.

Lord Fisher declares that the British nation is going to make the "same damned mess" over the internal combustion engine which every nation except ourselves was ploughing ahead. The experimental laboratory for the development of this engine, instituted by the Board of Inventions, is ill-fitted in size and miserably inadequate. "I really look forward to the day of judgment when all champion liars now so highly honoured will be exposed and flagellated."

He concludes by declaring that his years from 1902 to 1910 at the Admiralty won the war.

A LITTLE BIT OF IRELAND.

LONDON, Sept. 9.
A large body of armed civilians attacked a military convoy a few miles from Fermoy on Sunday evening and captured 25 rifles. They drove off in motorcars. From 20 to 30 men four miles from Skibbereen on Sunday evening attempted to hold up a party of armed soldiers in a motor-lorry. They desisted when the soldiers presented their rifles.

THE ST. LEGER.

LONDON, Sept. 9.
Trowbridge (Stephenson) have been added to the probable starters for the St. Leger. The betting is 40 to 75 Buchan.

THE SILVER MARKET.

LONDON, Sept. 11.
The silver market is steady.

COMMERCIAL AVIATION.

GOVERNMENT PROMISES ASSISTANCE.

LONDON, Sept. 9.

The question of the disposal of airships and of government assistance to aerial commercial enterprise was discussed at a conference in London by representatives of the Air Ministry and persons interested in commercial aviation. Major-General Seely said when the political situation cleared in about a month the Air Ministry and the Admiralty would combine to offer cheaply airships to those who will undertake the formation of a commercial air scheme. Government assistance will include wireless stations, meteorological information, sheds and a trained personnel. It was urgent on political grounds that the scheme should be launched at the speediest opportunity. The meeting decided to form a financial committee to consider details.

RESTLESS GERMANY.

STILL KILLING AND WOUNDING.

COPENHAGEN, Sept. 9.

According to Reuters' correspondent at Copenhagen a message from Berlin says there is a cleavage among the independent socialists. Opposing elements alternatively favour parliamentary against the direct action of the extremists. An arranged demonstration at Spandau found the venue occupied by Government troops who machine-gunned the procession wounding five, after which the crowd dispersed. Riots at Bremen concluded in a street fight.

COL. JOHN WARD.

AGAINST DESERTING THE RUSSIANS.

LONDON, Sept. 9.

The labour member, Colonel John Ward, who just returned from Russia, interviewed, said: "To desert the Russians who had rallied to our standard will make our name stink in the nostrils of every non-Bolshevik Russian. We went to Russia to prevent the Germans from transferring men from the western front. Are we now to say to those who had rallied round us 'you have served our turn we are going, we wish you luck?' That said Col. Ward is unthinkable. It would be black treachery to leave them to face enemies they have made for our sakes; without anything more substantial than our good will."

'DIRECT ACTION.'

REFERRED BACK.

LONDON, Sept. 9.

At a Trade Union Congress card vote a resolution was passed, on the motion of Mr. Smillie by 2,600,000 to 1,900,000 referring back to the Parliamentary Committee the passage of the Committee's report which dealt with "Direct action" but expressed no opinion thereon, merely saying that the principle involved was a grave one. Before the vote was taken the chairman said that if the passage was referred back it would be construed as a vote in favour of "direct action" on political issues; but the vote would not prevent a direct resolution on the subject later.

THE BRITISH NAVY.

REDUCTION TO A RESERVE BASIS.

LONDON, Sept. 9.

The Admiralty has ordered the reduction of the Home Fleet battleships and the 4th and 5th destroyer flotillas to a reserve basis from October 1. The 20th flotilla will be similarly reduced on the completion of service in the Baltic and reconstructed. The 4th destroyer flotilla and the 2nd light cruiser squadron will be fully manned and join the Atlantic Fleet. Submarine flotillas attached to the Atlantic Fleet will be reduced to seven each, in K. L. and H. classes.

FRENCH GENERAL ELECTION.

PARIS, Sept. 9.

The general elections will probably take place on November 9.

TREATMENT FOR DYSENTERY.

CHAMBERLAIN'S Colic and Diarrhoea Remedy followed by a dose of castor oil will effectually cure the most stubborn cases of dysentery. It is especially good for summer diarrhoea in children. For sale by All Chemists and Dispensaries.

CHINESE TELEGRAMS.

[Translated for the China Mail from the Wah Tsz Yat Po.]

VENAXIOUS TELEGRAMS.

SHANGHAI, September 11.
The Military General Staff Board in a circular telegram to all the provinces has requested the authorities to censor strictly all telegrams while the Conference is proceeding.

SHANTUNG RAILWAY REDEMPTION.

A telegram from Shantung states that the Province has raised a fund amounting to \$2,000,000 for the redemption of the Niaochow-Tsinan railway extension. It asks all Provinces to assist in raising the fund to the required amount.

THE SOUTH'S PROTEST.

The Cabinet has decided to reply to the Southerners' protest on Wong Yee Tong's appointment in a strong tone and to urge the early opening of the peace conference.

ANHUI TUCHUN AT PEKING.

PEKING, Sept. 11.
Nei Chi Chung the tuchun of Anhui, arrived at Peking yesterday. It is learned that his coming concerns the reorganisation of the Cabinet.

THE COLLISION CASE.

The Cabinet contemplates the establishment of a special court for rehearing the Collision case between the s.s. "Kiang Kwan" of the China Merchant N.S. Coy. and the cruiser "Chor Chay."

A BASKET OF OPIUM.

POSSESSION NOT A CHARGEABLE OFFENCE.

As the Shanghai Mixed Court on Sept. 3 \$1,500 worth of opium which had been the cause of a little trouble in Avenue Edward VII. was ordered to be returned to the complainant who had preferred a charge of robbery against another Chinese who, he said, was one of the six who attacked him. The case was heard by Mr. Blackburn, British Assessor, and Magistrate Li.

Mr. N. C. Home appeared for the complainant and Mr. R. C. Faithfull represented the Police.

Det. Cabbot said that on August 30 complainant was bringing a basket of opium from the French Concession to the International Settlement and when in Avenue Edward VII. was set upon by a number of men who pulled him into an alleyway and robbed him of the opium. A Chinese police constable who saw what had happened gave chase to the men as they ran away and recovered the opium, while the accused was handed over to him by the complainant.

Evidence was given in support of the charge by the Chinese constable and the complainant.

Accused denied that he stole the opium. He was there by himself and seeing the crowd he went up and the complainant knelt out of his hand the fruit he was carrying and handed him over to the police.

Recalled, the complainant said the accused was the man who actually took the opium from him.

Accused was sentenced to two months' imprisonment.

Upon Mr. Home asking the Court what order it would make with regard to the opium, Mr. Faithfull said he was instructed by the police to oppose any application for the drug to be returned to the complainant.

Mr. Blackburn said he was not prepared to make any order with reference to the opium unless the complainant was charged with being in possession of it.

Mr. Faithfull: The Police are not prepared to charge the complainant with being in possession of the opium owing to instructions received from the Inspector-General of Customs.

The Assessor: Instructions from whom?

Mr. Faithfull: The Inspector-General. There are certain new regulations with regard to persons found in possession of opium. They are not to be charged unless it can be proved that they have it for the purpose of sale.

Mr. Home: Then the opium goes to the complainant?

The Assessor: Yes, it being the complainant's property we can make no order, the complainant not being charged with the possession of it.

BUSINESS NOTICES

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34 Eggs Wire Nails

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Terms:—Cash on delivery.

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Hongkong, September 10, 1919.

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3 Cases Iron Bedsteads

14 Cases Florentine Glass

(More or less damaged by sea-water)

Also

5 cases Star Chocolate,

8 cases Assorted Chocolate,

10 cases Dried Figs,

3 cases Campbell's Soup,

3 cases Lime Juice,

3 cases Lemon Squash,

3 cases Salad Oil,

106 tins Groats.

Terms:—Cash on delivery.

GEO. P. LAMMERT,

Auctioneer.

Hongkong, September 10, 1919.

INTIMATIONS.



NOTICE.

COLONIAL SECRETARY'S DEPARTMENT.

Permission given by His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government under section 10 of the Travellers Restriction Ordinance 1915.

On and after the 8th day of September, 1919.

1. (1) Persons who are in possession of such passports as are hereinafter mentioned and produce the same as hereinafter mentioned are permitted by His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government to leave the Colony without a passport from the Captain Superintendent of Police.

(2) A British subject is permitted to leave the Colony, without a Police Pass, provided that he has in his possession a valid passport which has been issued or renewed within the last two years and provided that he produces such passport, on demand, on board of and prior to the departure of the steamer by which he is leaving.

(3) A subject of a Foreign Power is permitted to leave the Colony without a Police Pass, provided that he has in his possession a valid passport granted by or on behalf of the Government of the Country of which he is a subject and provided that he produces such passport, on demand, on board of and prior to the departure of the steamer by which he is leaving.

2. A person arriving in and leaving the Colony by the same steamer is permitted to leave the Colony, provided that he has such valid passport as is required and provided that he produces such passport, on demand, on board of and prior to the departure of the steamer by which he is leaving.

3. Members of ships' crews are permitted to sign on without obtaining a permit from the Captain Superintendent of Police.

4th September, 1919.

NOTE.—All persons who are either without a passport or without such a valid passport as is above mentioned, must continue to comply with all the provisions of the Travellers Restriction Ordinance 1915.

3. To prevent delay in sailings, Shipping Companies should satisfy themselves that intending passengers have the necessary passports on board in their possession.

All persons with certain exceptions, who remain in the Colony for more than 7 days are required to register themselves under the REGISTRATION OF PERSONS ORDINANCE 1914. Forms of Registration giving the particulars required may be obtained at the G.P.O. and at all Police Stations.

The Penalty for non-compliance is a fine not exceeding \$50.

E. D. O. WOLFE,
Captain Superintendent of Police.

Hongkong, September 11, 1919.

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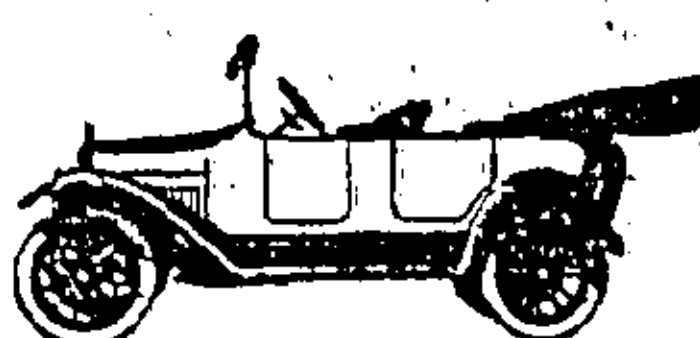
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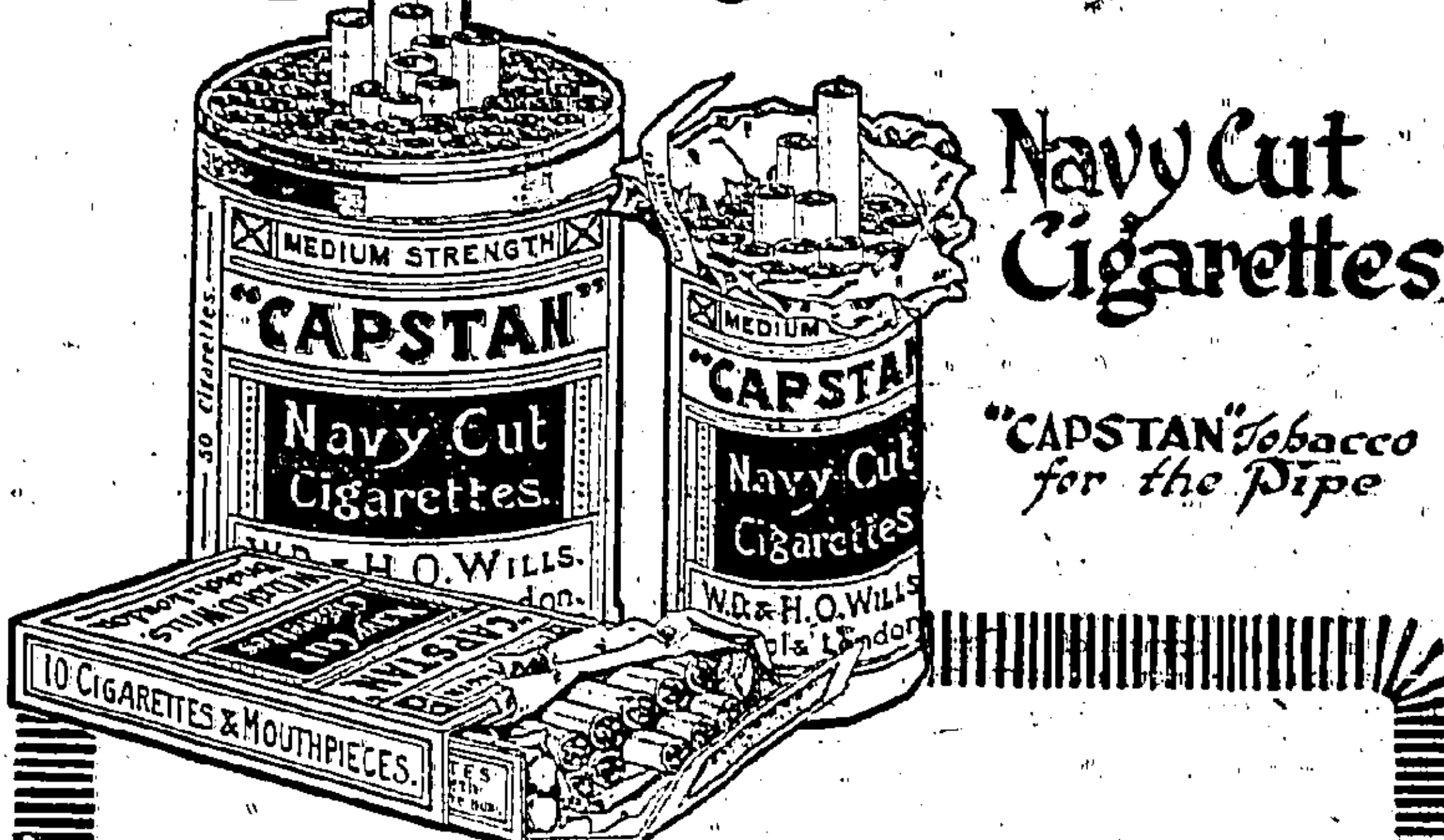
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THE FUTURE OF EUROPE.

General Smuts is beyond doubt the greatest of our Imperial statesmen. He belongs to a small nation, but small nations have a knack of producing great men. He is a South African Dutchman born and bred. He has fought against us and he has fought for us, both with equal success. For five years, from the first day of the war to the last, he has given his whole strength, body and mind, to our cause, for the last part of the period as one of the most conspicuous and powerful figures in our counsels of war and of peace. He left our shores for the land of his birth, to which his first service is due, and before going he left us a message which is of moment and deserves every man's attention. A few weeks his return from Paris after the conclusion of peace, of which he was one of the signatories, he took occasion frankly to state some of the grounds on which he judged it to have fallen short. To-day he deals again and more comprehensively with the most important of the problems which it has left behind. Nothing can be more valuable than this sincere and statesmanlike survey of the whole field of European politics as it has been left by the tremendous solvent of war, written from a detached standpoint with the full knowledge and with a grasp of political principle rare among governing men. If on certain points he should be judged to take a view too favourable to our late enemies, he pleads, and with justice, that at least he has fought them hard. Perhaps indeed here lies his greatest service, that he is able to approach the whole tremendous problem of European peace without a shadow of vindictiveness, with the generosity and largeness of heart of the man who has himself suffered the bitterness of national defeat and has known how to come through it so nobly that, better perhaps than almost any of ourselves, he has recognised the greatness of the ideals which are at the back of British policy and of the service which the British Empire is capable of rendering to the world. To such a man and such a temper we should do well indeed not to respond.

On the war as a whole, General Smuts delivers a remarkable verdict. Despite all disappointments, all disillusion, he declares its fundamental significance to be a victory of the spirit, of the moral over the material factors of life. Germany had entered upon a "vast venture in materialism," she had prepared "the most tremendous, mechanical, apparatus of victory" which the world had ever seen. She failed. And why did she fail? It was because the spirit of man rose up against her and "the outraged conscience of the nations" took its revenge. It is true, and profoundly true. But what is the moral of this mighty event in the world's history? Is it that we in turn should yield to the

temptations of materialism, to the lust of dominion, to the greed of territory, to the fear which is the mother of cruelty, to the pride, or malignity, which ignores the rights and pours contempt on the character of other nations? That, of course, is the danger, and we have ample evidence of it alike at home and abroad. This disease of the spirit, it is true, chiefly afflicts those who have not fought in the war. It is not the soldier's spirit. He knows too much of the cost of war and can weigh it more truly against paltry gains and imaginary safeguards. General Smuts, as a true soldier, can actually find a place in the direction of policy for the Christian virtues. He is not above telling us that it behoves us to practise "mercy, pity, and forgiveness." Moreover, he finds in this unaccustomed exercise for our great ones not a source of national weakness, but the key to sanity and to success in the conduct of affairs. Strange to say, he has no belief in anti-alien "stunts" or in a policy of covert suspicion and animosity towards Germany. He urges that we should give all the support in our power to the moderate Government of Herr Ebert in its difficult task, and before cutting the ground from under it, as we did first in the case of Kerensky and recently again in the case of Court Karolyi, should reflect upon the direct consequences of those ill-judged proceedings in Russia and in Hungary. If we press hardly upon a despairing population we inevitably run the risk of throwing them into the arms of the extremists. It happened twice; is it to happen a third time? The results of those errors are now irrevocable, but it is still possible to make them worse. General Smuts has no sovereign remedy to offer for repairing the ruin of Russia, but it is clear he finds none in making war upon her or in giving aid and countenance, as we are at present doing, to her most reactionary elements. He offers "no dogmatic opinion," but makes the important suggestion that after all we should probably do better to leave Russia alone. If, he says, we removed the blockade, and adopted a policy of friendly neutrality towards all the Russian factions, then at least we should give the Russian people a chance to work out a solution in accordance with Russian methods and ideas, which may be far enough from our own. He even suggests that "it may well be that the only ultimate hope for Russia is a sobered, purified Soviet system," and that at least this would be a great deal better than the Terrorism to which our present policy seems inevitably tending. The suggestion will not be welcomed by our fire-eaters. It will be severely condemned by our chief fire-eater, who unfortunately is also our Minister for War. Whether in his heart our Prime Minister will not agree is much more doubtful. He, like the giver of this advice, has courage and imagination.

Nor was this the end of General Smuts' audacities. He actually suggested that the Irish question is one which can no longer safely be neglected, that it is not merely a domestic but an Imperial question, that it is even the most vital and pressing of all Imperial questions. "Unless," he declared in words of high significance, "the Irish question is settled on the great principles which form the basis of this Empire, this Empire must 'cease to exist.' What does this mean? It means just this, that no country, not even the greatest, can afford to play fast and loose with the fundamental spiritual structure of its own life. The basis of the British Empire, of every part of it, of its very heart, is freedom. Permanently to deny to part of the Empire freedom, of what that part feels in the roots of its being to be essential freedom, is to deny it to all. Therefore the claim of Ireland cannot and must not be ignored. Of course it is difficult, but it is no more difficult, General Smuts assures us, than the question of Bohemia, which the combined wisdom of the Peace Conference has not found to be insoluble. Indeed, our statesmen have been hard at work for months past practising on the problems presented by Ireland, Ireland. Again it needs courage, it needs imagination. It is not to be met by paying heed to the dogged sterility of one side or the extravagant self-assertion of the other. In the mighty transformation of the world this little corner of it, so essential to its peace, cannot be left out. It must be approached, as General Smuts would have us approach all our problems, in the spirit of a sane and dispassionate statesmanship and of a generous recognition of human right. The appeal comes from one who has felt in his own person and for his own people the saving virtue of these great qualities, to which he pays his tribute as distinctively English. Are we going in this great moment of our history to be true to them or false? It is a decisive choice.

THE BEDFORDS' ORDEAL.

The 3rd Garrison Battalion Bedfords, Begum, transferred from Burma to Larkspur on May 17, arrived late and had to march to barracks in the heat of the day, reports the Secretary for India. With the result that there were 12 cases of heat strokes, 17 of exhaustion, and 10 deaths.

When the full report of this lamentable occurrence is received, I shall be in a position to consider what action is necessary. It is added: According to Major Collier, who put a question on the subject in the House of Commons, the thermometer registered 115 deg. in the shade and 5 officers and 60 men were admitted to hospital.

NOTICES.

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Faint Sweet Vanilla Chocolate
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American Chocolate
Imported Chocolate
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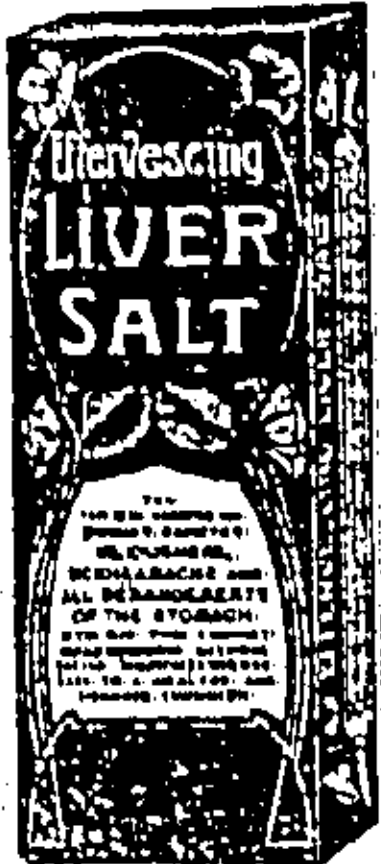
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COAT FROCKS.
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VELOURS.

The China Mail.

TRUTH, JUSTICE, PUBLIC SERVICE.

HONGKONG, FRIDAY, SEPT. 12, 1919.

OBJECTS AND REASONS.

Ordinances in the stage of incubation have attached to them, in Government Gazettes and Hansard reports, little paragraphs of type that are labelled "objects and reasons." That these paragraphs rarely give us a clear view of the reasons of the ordinances in question, has been explained. There is a departmental reluctance to tell the mere public (outsiders that we are) more than they think is good for us. The Government is rather like that type of street and bar haranguer whose favourite formula is "You take it from me." It is also rather like Alfred Jingle in "Pickwick." You seem to see the departmental finger tapping the side of the departmental nose, and saying, "Objects and reasons—certainly—trust me to have objects—artful, very—and reasons—oh, most certainly the best—don't you worry—leave it to me." It is not only that penchant for skel ton-ordinances which we have discussed, that partially for "blank cheque" laws which our Legislators sign and the Department fills up to suit itself and to make easy its administrative task. Because sometimes the ordinances are perfectly good ordinances in that respect, and do not attempt to transfer to the Executive the true functions of the legislative. It seems to be some form of that weakness which makes certain bidders at an auction so shy in their method of bidding that the auctioneer misses them altogether. There was the recent Moneychangers' Ordinance. The objects and reasons of that Ordinance would have been furthered by a frank and plain disclosure of why it was ever passed, why the Government was meddling with these people at all. Now that we suspect them of hoarding subsidiary coinage, possibly with an eye to profiting by a "corner," we can all see what an excellent measure it was. Sometimes, again, the Government could avert criticism, argument, and waste of time, by "showing its hand." There was the Cheung Chau ordinance, the "objects and reasons" of which, as gazetted, were an affront. To be told that the objects and reasons (of the ordinance empowering the Governor to prohibit red neckties) are that no person shall be able to wear a red necktie without a permit is to say the least of it not informative. Children always ask for the objects and reasons of parental or gubernatorial commands, until

they learn "discipline." But the public here are not children, and we trust that none of the Panjandums have any conscious intention or desire to discipline us in that way. We have a right to know; but better still, it would actually be good for us to know. Good for the Government too. So much for Ordinances.

There are other objects and reasons we desire and should have. Just now a long notification about passports is appearing over the name of the C.S.P.

The gist of it is this. British subjects must have a passport to leave the Colony. Foreigners ditto. Both, presumably, must have them to land with.

Persons without passports must have police passes (Travellers Restriction Ordinance 1915). Residents after the seventh day must be registered (Registration of Persons Ordinance 1916) under penalty not exceeding \$50.

So far as we know, this registration still involves re-registration of every change of address within the Colony, and presumably there is a penalty for overlooking that.

The objects and reasons for those two Ordinances we took on trust. There was a war on and we reckoned they were necessary. We never dreamed of questioning it.

But the war is now over. Peace has been celebrated (expensively) and we want (we would very much like to have) the government's objects and reasons for carrying on these war measures now.

Why object to anybody leaving the Colony? We are over-crowded, and can spare some. Why this registration foolishness within the Colony? You see? It may not be foolishness; it may not be so foolish as it looks. Objects and reasons might convince us that it is still really advisable. Why cannot we have them? Why cannot a public statement be made? Why not disarm us with objects and reasons?

At present we are bound to suspect there are none, because we can think of none that are lawful, or reputable, or reasonable. We suspect it is merely Bumbledom, love of authority, or perhaps preference for a cushy job. They are clearing out rats of these war bureaux at home now, under public pressure. When will Hongkong clean house?

COW HIDE CASE.

Our little note of last night was "stop press" news, that came by telephone. That explains the mistake made in recording Magistrate Smith's remarks. We missed out a "not." It did look silly to say that the trade was not offensive, and then find the man. Mr. Smith is never silly. We

have a large respect for the way he is shaping as a magistrate. The silliness was ours, and our only excuse is to cut the telephone, which is an infernal invention. We give the correct report today, fully. In doing so, we want to bespeak special consideration for these Chinese dealers in hides. There is a turnover, it seems, of hundreds of thousands of dollars. That should not be lightly driven away. All trades are offensive to a certain sort of liverish, irritable neighbour common here. The trans make too much noise. Profiteers make too much money. This is not a seaside resort, a garden city for Eden-seekers and holiday makers. It is a city of trade and of works. It is going to be busier than ever, if the makers of Ordinances don't penalize those who are earning livings out of undue respect to those who are merely suffering liver. Deleterious trades are another story, but the smell of hides never hurt anybody yet. Hear both sides. Get this point of view as well as the other.

BUILDING LAND.

A light tramway out to the hinterlands of Kowloon. Another to Repulse Bay. Look at the map and figure out for yourselves what a lot of attractive building sites would then be opened up, and how eager would be the rush for them. Imagine how our housing problem would thus settle itself. Consider the enormous increment of the Government's income thereby provided. Regard all together and wonder why it has not been done before, why there is no attempt to do it now.

On flat sites, which would then be plentiful, there is no need for the expensive retaining walls etc. which discourage all but the wealthy from building. We could have (assuming that the Department could be persuaded to forget old custom and see reason) homes on the American plan, neat bungalows of wood on concrete foundations, very suitable to the climate and suitable to our means. Whatever they were built of, they'd be cheaper than the massy structures perched on steep slopes.

The picture is attractive. What hinders it from becoming reality? Come closer. Let's whisper.

It would bring rents down and cheapen house property on the rock. So the property owners (who have a pull) stand in the path of the home wishers (who could have the push).

It's quite simple, and it's quite wrong. What are we going to do about it?

"BOZ."

While our contributor's prattling friend "Nellie" has more than one resemblance to Dr. Johnson, ever ready with an opinion whether well informed or not, and being no respecter of subjects, we fear we cannot trace the slightest resemblance between himself and the delectable Boswell. His "stuff" to-day is less like Boswell's than ever it was. It is, we regret to say, in apposes, and not even the flatness of the period can be adduced in excuse. May we not without offence, recommend him to study the style of the literary artist whose name—but tut-tut! It is we who are napping. It is Dickens, and not Boswell, whose name he has commandeered. Well, "Sketches by Boz" may be nearer his ambition, but we'll still urge him to observe the other model. By Boswellizing "Nellie" he may succeed in making a hit. Otherwise, (this is more a warning than a threat) the *China Mail* and "Nellie" will have to part with the "pathetic bristliness" marking Dr. Johnson's last farewell, which impressed Boswell (what a love of a man!) with a foreboding of our long, long separation. We do not dream of blaming "Nellie" for our present disappointment; we blame "Boz."

THE COLLIERIES.

In Australia, it has been pointed out with scorn, Labour submits to arbitration, but if the verdict goes against it, it disregards it. Unworthy conduct, no one denies. Truth of July 23 puts the boot on the other leg at home. The colliers made demands. They were put off for months by the usual dilatory method of a commission of enquiry. They submitted. The enquiry resulted in their favour. It is the Government which is now evading the effect of the report, blurring, tripping, "evasive and tricky" begging the men not to insist. A sorry business. The Panjandums are for ever discredited. Truth says no wonder the proletariat are suspicious. But they no longer suspect. They are sure. The mischief is done.

LORD FISHER'S STYLE.

Lord Fisher has written and the *Times* has published some words about naval matters that, if they had appeared in a *China Mail* editorial, would have drawn lip pursings and censure from a few of our local back-biters. Turn to Reuter's messages to-day and see how a bluff old man of the sea, stammering with sincerity and scorn, deals with the sly-gentle

lis and ans and innuendoes of—of—well, of what he calls "am. There is no terminological inexactitude there; no doubt of his meaning; and doesn't it do your heart good to read it? Plain speech for plain people about plain issues. Let's get on with it. The mealy-mouthed snufflers of half meanings and half truths have had too much of their own way.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

To-day's dollar is worth 4/15/16d.

The wedding of Mr. G. Glendinning to Miss E. Hillier en route from Australia will shortly take place.

The s.s. "Chinhua" (Captain Speer) cleared for Singapore at noon to-day with 100 tons of general cargo.

The s.s. "Daitoku Maru" (Capt. Hirano) arrived from Keelung yesterday with a cargo of 1,824 tons of coal for Hongkong.

The s.s. "Namsang" (Capt. Liddell) cleared for Calcutta via Singapore at 3 p.m. to-day with 400 tons of general cargo.

The s.s. "Toyo Maru" No. 1 (Capt. Minami) arrived from Keelung yesterday with a cargo of 1,240 tons of coal for Hongkong.

The s.s. "Nippon Maru" (Capt. Shiohata) cleared to-day and is due to sail at 7 a.m. to-morrow, for Keelung. She takes no cargo.

The s.s. "Taisama" (Capt. Lemos) arrived from Pakhoi yesterday with 350 tons of general cargo and 2 bags and 3 baskets of mails.

The s.s. "Chusang" (Captain Davis) arrived from Chingwan to at 6.30 a.m. to-day, with a cargo of 2,150 tons of coal for Hongkong.

The s.s. "Namwan" (Captain Costa) arrived from Hoihow yesterday with 200 tons of general cargo and 4 bags and one basket of mails.

The s.s. "Taisama" (Capt. Lemos) cleared for Pakhoi to-day and is due to sail at 6 a.m. to-morrow, with 150 tons of general cargo.

The s.s. "Yuetsang" (Capt. Koss) arrived from Swatow at 1.45 p.m. yesterday, with 500 tons of general cargo, and 1 bag of mails for Hongkong.

The s.s. "Yuetsang" (Capt. Kennedy) cleared for Manila at 3 p.m. to-day with 650 tons of general cargo. She also takes 11 European passengers.

The s.s. "Quinnebaug" (Capt. Medina) cleared for Foochow at 1 p.m. to-day with 800 tons of general cargo. She carried 400 Asiatic passengers.

The s.s. "Shunshing" (Capt. Place) arrived from K. C. Wan at 5.15 p.m. yesterday, with 130 tons of general cargo and one bag of mails for Hongkong.

The s.s. "Kosaku Maru" (Capt. Ngahira) cleared for Bombay via Singapore and Colombo at 3 p.m. to-day with 239 tons of through general cargo.

The s.s. "Produce" (Capt. Winsnes) arrived from Sourabaya at 8 a.m. yesterday with a cargo of 1,400 tons of sugar and 4 bags of mails for Hongkong.

Truth on July 23 defines Winston Churchill as a political soldier of fortune of volatile disposition and easy principles. The *China Mail* adds that he is the Prince of Panjandums.

Amongst those who sailed on the s.s. "China" yesterday, is Mr. Teng Lai Chun, proprietor of the King Edward Hotel, who is making a health trip to Peking. He was accompanied by Mr. Choi Sing.

There arrived in the Colony yesterday from San Francisco by the s.s. "Nippon Maru," General G. S. Gentil of the U.S. Army, who is en route for Manila. General Gentil is accompanied by Mrs. Gentil and their three children.

Madame Fairall is raffling a beautiful doll and chair, in aid of the Ministering Children's League. The tickets are \$1 each. This handsome doll as well as the chair are on view in the window of Madame Fairall's establishment in Peddar Street.

The s.s. "Nippon Maru" (Capt. Ozaki) arrived from San Francisco via Nagasaki at 5.30 p.m. yesterday with 49 European passengers and a cargo of 851 tons of groceries, matches and merchandise. She also brought 659 bags of mails for Hongkong and Manila.

Amongst the passengers who arrived here from San Francisco on the s.s. "Nippon Maru," yesterday is Mr. J. H. Wittich, a son of Mr. J. Wittich, manager of King Edward Hotel. Mr. Wittich is proceeding to Saigon on business, and expects to be away for some months.

ANOTHER DETECTIVE ARRESTED.

ALLEGED DEMANDING MONEY BY MENACES.

During the last month no less than five of our Chinese detectives have been convicted for various offences. The latest to be arrested is a Chinese detective, charged with demanding \$100 by menaces, and for misconduct as a constable.

Mr. A. E. Hall appeared for the defence when the man was brought up before Mr. Lindsell this morning. Defendant, it is alleged, went on board the "Lieng Shing" contrary to departmental orders, to search luggage, and he is stated to have used menaces to two Chinese members of the crew.

Mr. Lindsell remanded the case fixing bail at \$750.

SHIPS IN HARBOUR.

List of vessels in port this morning.

British.	Japanese.
Chusan	Daitoku Maru
Lindsay Moller	Toyo Maru 1
Lienhsing	Nippon Maru
Chusang	Kosaku Maru
Amherst	Tacoma Maru
Jason	Amakusa Maru
Yuensang	Hoten Maru
Namsang	Tango Maru
Chinhua	Chelan Maru
Hermelin	Nankai Maru
Laisang	Ujo Maru
Pheumphen	Taiwan Maru
Volute	Masayoshu Maru
Norwegian.	Chinese.
Produce	Kam Ying Fat
Hero	Taisama
	Yue Shang
	Shun Shing
	Hui Hai
	Wing Hang
American.	French.
Brooklyn	
Tancerville	
Quinnebaug	
Dutch.	Songma
Tjimanoeck	
Tijpanas	Portuguese.
Tibodas	Nam Wan
Ajax	
Linburg	

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

Mr. J. W. Franks returned to the Colony yesterday by the s.s. "Nippon Maru."

Mr. H. N. Beaupaire, sub-manager of the Hongkong Hotel and Mrs. Beaupaire returned to the Colony from Shanghai by the s.s. "Nagoya."

Capt. Wavell, commander of the s.s. "Nankin," who is proceeding home on well earned leave, passed through from Shanghai on the s.s. "Nagoya."

The Canton Kowloon Railway has issued a new time table cancelling all previous ones. The new time table will come in force on 16th September.

Amongst those who returned to the Colony yesterday by the s.s. "Nippon Maru" is Miss E. D. Skipton, B.A., Superintendent of the Diocesan Girls' School, who had been on a short holiday to Japan.

Mr. H. C. Sandford, acting chief accountant of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank who has been on short leave to Japan returned to the Colony yesterday afternoon by the s.s. "Nippon Maru."

The s.s. "Kosaku Maru" arrived from Kobe via Moji at 3.25 p.m. yesterday with 3,343 tons of through cargo, and 293 tons of general cargo for Hongkong. She also brought 17 bags of mails.

There is a rumour in town this morning that the Craigkheil Hotel, 25, Flunket Road, the Peak, has been sold as a going concern. We have made extensive enquiries but are unable to get any confirmation of the story.

There passed through the Colony from Yokohama on the s.s. "Nagoya," Commander Jenkinson, O.B.E., and Pay Lieut. Warren who are proceeding home to take up new appointments after having been relieved from the China Station.

Senhor T. de Mattos, Harbour Master, Macao, who it will be remembered was at one time acting Governor of the Colony, left for Europe via America on the s.s. "Korea Maru." He is accompanied by Mrs. de Mattos and Miss de Mattos.

Truth prints the following:—Here is a glaring example of the way the staff are favoured in comparison with their regimental brethren. A substantive Major of the Territorial Force was commissioned in 1909, served throughout the war with his regiment and was demobilised last April with a gratuity of £334. His young brother, a boy of 18 who was a school boy till Christmas, 1915, joined the Special Reserve in January, 1916, as a second lieutenant, and was made an acting staff captain in 1918. He was demobilised in February with a gratuity of £330.

KIDNAPPING A GIRL.

ACCUSED CLAIM PORTUGUESE CITIZENSHIP.

Before Mr. R. E. Lindsell at the Magistracy yesterday afternoon the hearing was resumed in the case in which Mr. Leo Longinotto, Assistant Crown Solicitor, made an application for the extradition of a Chinese who is wanted by the Chinese authorities for the alleged offence of kidnapping a Chinese girl at Lantao, and taking her to Macao with a view of selling her into a house of ill-fame.

Mr. C. F. Mason, M.C., appeared for the defence.

Wu Lum of No. 218, Des Voeux Road, West, giving evidence said that he first heard that his sister was kidnapped on January 18, last. He searched for her and from enquiries made, he learned that she was seen on board a boat bound for Macao. Witness went to Macao and there met his sister strolling about in the streets. He asked her if she was willing to return home. She replied that she was. Witness knew of no reason for her running away from home. She was well treated and was engaged to be married to a seaman.

In reply to Mr. Mason, witness said he did not know the Military officer in charge of the Chinese troops in Lantao.

Addressing his Worship for the defence, Mr. Mason said it had not been provided by the Crown that his client was a Chinese subject. In support of his point Counsel referred to a paragraph in the report of the Full Court in an extradition case, defended that in accordance with the Chinese Extradition Ordinance of 1899, there must be clear proof before the Magistrate that an accused person is a subject of China before an extradition order could be made.

Continuing, Mr. Mason said his client was born in Macao and was therefore a Portuguese citizen. The defendant was formerly a seaman, but owing to the war he left the service.

Mr. Lindsell (to the defendant). Were you afraid of submarines?

Defendant? Yes, sir.

Continuing, Mr. Mason said the girl in question was of none too good a character, so much so, that her mother had put before her a piece of rope and a knife and told her to choose the form of death she preferred. She made no choice but ran away from the house instead. She went to Macao and there lived with the defendant's wife. When her brother met her in Macao, he took her to the authorities there and she was ordered to pay the defendant \$20 for her board and lodgings. She had no money to pay and consequently brought up this false charge of kidnapping against his client so as to get rid of him.

The defendant was then put into the witness box and in reply to Counsel said he was a citizen of Macao. He was formerly a seaman, but was now unemployed. He lived with his wife in Macao. He did not know the girl until last year when she visited his wife and stayed in his house. While there, she wrote letters to a Chinese military officer, and offered witness money to find him. Witness complied with her request and succeeded in finding him and told the girl later. The complainant lived in witness's house for less than a month when she was discovered by her brother. Witness was told that she refused to recognise her brother who took her before the authorities. She was tried in Macao and she told the Judge there that her mother had handed her a piece of cord and a knife and asked her to choose either of the two forms of death. She thereupon decided to leave home and come to Macao to search for Leong Yee (witness's wife). The Judge ordered her to pay witness \$20 for her board and lodgings, but he never received a cent of that money. When he asked her for it, she rebuked him.

Cross-examined by Mr. Longinotto, witness said he was in Macao last year. His wife had known the girl for many years. His wife was not a native of Lantao but used to go there to visit friends. The reason the girl went to his wife after running away from home was because on a former occasion she had asked her, for employment.

Answering some personal questions, witness said he did not know if his birth was registered in Macao. It was not a fact that he had said at the Detective Offices on Aug. 9 that he was born in Lantao.

After some pressure, the witness admitted that he had said at the Yau-nai Police station that he was born in Lantao, but then he was honestly under the impression that it was true. He only became aware of the fact that he was born in Macao when his father told him so recently, when he visited witness at the jail.

Hearing was adjourned until Wednesday next in order that the defendant might produce his birth certificate and witnesses to prove that he was a Portuguese citizen.

A GOOD SUGGESTION.

TRY Chamberlain's Tablets. You are certain to be much pleased with them. They are easy to take and pleasant in effect. For sale by All Chemists and Dispensaries.

NELLIE'S DIALOGUES NO. III.

THE PRATTLING TONGUE AGAIN.

(By Boz.)

Nellie is a creature of moods. I found her seated on the Kowloon Ferry going across.

"Hello, Boz," she called out "come and sit over here." I obeyed. I wanted to. If I hadn't she was quite capable of compelling me by force. She likes an attentive listener.

"What are you full of to-day, Nellie?"

"Nothing out of the ordinary," she replied "the papers are very dry during the summer months, you know. All the *taipans* are holiday making while their subordinates are sweating at pidgin. You see it is the *taipans* who can afford to invite people to functions; we poor folk stand in the same relationship as Lazarus to Dives. I mean, read the news of a magnificent social function given by Mrs. So and So, and be satisfied with what our imagination could picture the feast to have been. But I do not want to talk about *taipans*. They do that themselves. "Did you go to the museum?" I asked.

"Oh, that old curiosity shop in the City Hall, replied Nellie." You don't call that a museum do you? In my opinion it seems to be an apology for one. Mm alive, what is there of interest in it? A dead horse, a few stuffed reptiles, ore or two birds and such like. The Government is misusing an honest name when it calls that rickety old place, with a few uninteresting stuffed animals, a museum. In India, in Ceylon, in the Straits, Saigon and other places I have been to, the museums are worth seeing, but to invite tourists to examine the interesting *fauna* of Hongkong stuffed and cased in a place which looks more like an old curiosity shop is asking too much. It reminds me very much of a show-man who invited people to see Wellington and Blucher meeting and when people paid the price and went in, they noticed two boots sticking to each other."

"Yes," I said "The Government ought to be ashamed to call that place a museum. It wants some imagination on a visitor's part to picture the animals, insects, birds and curiosities which are absent. But give me your opinion about the Bribery case Nellie."

"The Bribery case? Well I think it was silly for that man to have jumped his bail and run away. He had an easy case to fight and had the support of everybody, not a Government servant. After all the man was only a coolie and I do not think that he was to blame. It's old custom. Besides, can anyone believe that a coolie is able to influence his master. Surely not. The talk about the whole subordinate Civil Service being affected is all bunkum. The P.W.D. were annoyed that the Magistrate was a rollicking good Magistrate he was, took the coolies part, and so arrested him on a charge of false pretences, on the same evidence. The foolish man ran away. Supposing a man commits an armed robbery; he gets off on the evidence of the prosecution; can the Police re-arrest him on another charge on the same evidence. Tommy rot! That was merely a piece of blame on the part of a piqued P.W.D. What I am wondering now is how the Attorney-General could read the Ordinance as he did. Well, well, the law is a funny thing! Now take the case of the junk man. He was fined and the *China Mail* kicked. What happened? Mr. Lindsell re-opened the case and discharged the man. He evidently read the Ordinance the second time, the way it should be read.

"I do not think there is anything very interesting this week. I am anxiously waiting for the next Council meeting for it gives me plenty of food for reflection. I was at the V.R.C. Athletic Sports on Saturday night and thought the handicapping a farce. But not being a member I cannot grumble. It is the judge's business and they know best. Tata for the present. Be good."

SALE OF MOTOR-BOAT.

THE "DINON."

Messrs. Hughes and Hough offered for sale by public auction at their sales rooms at noon to-day, the motor boat "Dinon." She is described in the advertisement of sale as follows: trawwood hull with copper below waterline, built in 1912. Her dimensions are as follows: length, 36 ft., beam 9 ft., and draught 2 ft., 6 ins., and she has a 15 to 20 horse power capacity. The vessel, which is fitted with a Ferro Marine motor is offered for sale complete with navigating lights, anchors etc. She is a well planned boat having fitted on board such conveniences as a cabin, lavatory and pantry, and is guaranteed to be in good running order.

There were many prospective buyers present and bidding was very brisk, chiefly among the Chinese. The vessel was eventually knocked down for \$800.

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SOUTH AFRICA, RED SEA, EGYPT, EUROPE, ETC.MARSEILLES & LONDON.
VIA STRAITS, COLOMBO AND PORT SAID.

S.S.	Leave Hongkong about	Due Marseilles about	Due London about
"KHIVA"	23rd October	25th November	4th December
"MOVARA"	30th November	11th December	20th December

BOMBAY VIA STRAITS AND COLOMBO.

S.S.	Leave Hongkong about	Due Bombay about
"SILWARA"	7th October	25th October

CALCUTTA VIA STRAITS AND RANGOON.

S.S.	Leave Hongkong about	Due Calcutta about
"AYOLA"	1st Oct.	28th Oct.

SHANGHAI, KOBE AND YOKOHAMA.

S.S.	Leave Hongkong about	Due Yokohama about
"KHIVA"	28th Sept.	9th October

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FOR PORT SAID.

S.S. "TENSHO MARU"

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S.S. "O. S. K." goes on through Bills of Lading to SOUTH AFRICAN PORTS
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SWATOW & BANGKOK	CHUSAN	Sept. 16, at 11 a.m.
SHANGHAI	SINKING	Sept. 18, Daylight
WEIHAIWEI, CHEFOO & TIENTSIN	HONGKONG	Sept. 19, at 2 p.m.

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SHANGHAI	WOSANG	TUESDAY, Sept. 16, Daylight
KOBE	CHAKSANG	WEDNESDAY, Sept. 17, at 8 p.m.
SHANGHAI	CHOYBANG	THURSDAY, Sept. 18, Daylight
STRAITS & CALCUTTA	KWANGSANG	FRIDAY, Sept. 19, at 3 p.m.
MANILA	LOONGSANG	FRIDAY, Sept. 19, at 2 p.m.
SANDAKAN	HINSANG	SATURDAY, Sept. 20, at Noon

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"WHEATLAND" About November 5.

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"NIPPON MARU" 11,000 25th September.

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"SHIRAZ MARU" 20,000 28th October.

"PERSIA MARU" 8,000 10th November.

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STEAMERS

FROM HONGKONG

DUE

VANCOUVER

Empress of Asia Oct. 2 Oct. 20

Empress of Japan Oct. 15 Nov. 5

Monteagle Oct. 19 Nov. 12

Empress of Russia Oct. 30 Nov. 17

Empress of Asia Nov. 27 Dec. 15

Empress of Japan Dec. 10 Dec. 31

Empress of Russia Dec. 23 Jan. 12

Monteagle Jan. 1 Jan. 23

*Empress of Asia from Hongkong, 2nd October, will not

call at Shanghai unless Japanese Quarantine regulations are

reduced in the interim.

Passage Fare Hongkong to United Kingdom.

Empress of Russia Gold 16,800 Tons Reg. Gold

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Empress of Japan Gold 16,800 Tons Reg. Gold

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WHAT GOLF COSTS?

BY R. ENDERBY HOWARD.

"I quite agree with the doctors," said the recent recruit to the links, "that golf is the finest antidote for overwork and the surest preventive of nervous breakdown that anybody has ever discovered. My only complaint is that I have to overwork myself in order to make enough money to play it."

It must be confessed, that the cost of golf—never a cheap pastime except in its democratic setting in Scotland—has risen alarmingly. Take the case of a man just converted to the game. He wants to join one of the many first-class clubs which are easily accessible from town and yet sufficiently far from it to be out of range of the soot and smoke and serried arrays of chimney pots.

He will have to pay an entrance fee of from twelve to fifteen guineas, in addition to an annual subscription of, say, ten guineas. St. George's Hill (Weybridge) and Stoke Poges (Slough) occur to one as instances of the clubs which have recently raised their entrance fees to the level mentioned. St. George's Hill from ten to fifteen guineas and Stoke Poges from ten to twelve guineas.

It may be said that these are among the more expensive clubs. Even so it is true that of fifteen motor-cars which drew up before the Stoke Poges Club House within a few minutes on a recent Saturday morning thirteen were Rolls-Royces, which is perhaps an indication. It is no uncommon thing for 150 cars conveying members to arrive in a day during a fine weekend.

But these two clubs are merely typical of many in the area within 25 miles of London. Everywhere will be found evidence of the increasing costliness of golf and the willingness of people to meet it. Those who are condemned to

11th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The 11th annual general meeting of the Shanghai Cotton Manufacturing Co., Ltd., was held at the offices of the agents (Messrs. Bussell & Co., Ltd.), Shanghai, on September 4. In the absence of Mr. M. Nodara, Mr. John Prentice presided, and was supported by Messrs. W. J. N. Dyer, H. E. Morris and K. Otani (Directors), Mr. W. A. C. Pitt (Legal Adviser), Mr. K. Kuroda (Secretary), Mr. N. Thomson, representing the auditors. The total number of shares represented was 20,249.

The meeting lasted close upon one and a half hours and there was an animated discussion, with reference to the statement of accounts between Mr. Horatio Robertson and the Chairman.

The Secretary having read the notice convening the meeting and the auditors' report the Chairman said:

Gentlemen.—Owing to the absence of our Chairman, Mr. Nodara, I am present in Japan. I have been requested by my co-directors to take the chair.

The Report and Accounts for the year ended June 30, 1919, having been in your hands for some days with your permission we will take them up next. The results of the year's working have in my opinion been very satisfactory indeed.

BALANCE SHEET.

Land, Buildings, Machinery and Plant.—As you will see in the account there is an increase of £479,231.55 during the year under review. As to the new mill, although its installation is not yet completed, we started its partial operation last January and the various accounts which hitherto were dealt with as "new mill" are now allocated under respective headings. The amount spent for buildings and machinery and plant, etc., for the new mill, up to the closing of the account, is £708,802.00 and about a further £200,000.00 is required to complete its installation. As to the cost of the new mill, to avoid any misunderstanding, I would like to repeat the remarks made at the 9th annual meeting by the Chairman, Mr. Horatio Robertson:—"I don't think we ever gave any undertaking that we would provide a mill for one million tons, but we asked for the substitution of one million tons as increase in capital." Besides addition of new mill account, there were additions in property and buildings such as forehouse building, permanent edifice, reclamation of shanghai land, staff's quarters, etc., etc. As reported at the 9th annual meeting, some of the buildings require thorough overhaul or complete rebuilding, especially at No. 2 mill; to this, your Board are giving careful consideration. The construction of a godown for No. 2 and No. 3 mills, though badly wanted, was left in abeyance until after the war, but will be proceeded with in the near future.

Stock of cotton, yarn, cloth, stores, etc.—The main item of these accounts is cost of raw cotton; the quantities of yarn and cloth are not heavy and all of these are either already sold or being held for customers.

Liabilities.—There is no item that calls for special comment.

Profit and Loss Account.—Turning to this account, you will see that the amount of profit for the year, including £32,204.91 brought forward from the previous year's account, amounts to £1,302,614.01, which sum your Directors propose to appropriate as follows:—

To write off as depreciation upon buildings 15,350.35
Spinning and weaving machinery and plant 43,765.53
Furniture 1,262.50

To distribute as dividend 60,879.38
To place to credit of special reserve fund 850,000.00
To carry to New Account 31,634.63

The 1,302,614.01

Later I shall ask you to approve of these appropriations by the usual formal resolution.

As I mentioned before, we require a good amount of money to meet the payments for balance of new mill machinery, various works or equipments on property, etc., etc., and your Board decided to set aside as a special reserve to meet the expenditure, the sum of £350,000.00 out of profit and loss account.

In accordance with the resolution passed at the last annual meeting, the board awarded Mr. Robertson an honorarium of £20,000.00 and a cheque for that amount was sent to him on December 20, 1918. On January 14, 1919, Mr. Robertson wrote that he had cashed the cheque and held the amount at call—and his letter concludes as follows:—"To accelerate matters this (the honorarium) I have assessed at the reasonable figure of and in full terms one lakh S.S. Allowing for those Tael twenty thousand, now in my hands, there yet remains a balance for me to receive of Tael eighty thousand S.S. and for which sum

your cheque will oblige at an early date, and whereby this episode can be both mutually and amicably closed."

On February 22 the agents wrote to Mr. Robertson stating the Board did not see any reason to alter their decision regarding the amount of the honorarium, but should he desire, they were quite prepared to articulate his letter to the shareholders, and request them to state whether they wished to increase the amount of the honorarium and if so by how much and should they decide to increase it, the Board would carry out their instruction. Since then we have heard nothing from Mr. Robertson on the subject.

No. 3 Mill.—The building having been taken over from the contractor on October 28 last, the trial of the main engine was made on December 20, and we were able to start working, though partially, on January 8. At present 32,000 spindles are in operation both day and night. You will be, no doubt, pleased to hear that the quality of yarn manufactured at this mill is exceedingly good and has already secured a good name among consumers, the demand increasing day by day from both local and outside customers. As to the balance of machinery for this mill, we have procured from the manufacturers to ship out all, during this year, and the Board are doing the best they can to get delivery as early as possible. According to the latest news, some machinery of vital importance in course of shipment and upon receipt of this, the productive power of the mill will be increased by 30 per cent.

Working of Mills.—During the year under review this was very satisfactory notwithstanding the high price of materials required for mill, especially the coal. The question of labor is not as easy as before and is requiring the careful attention of management. Chinese cotton on the whole was very good and we were able to obtain all we required, no foreign staple being used.

With revision of new tariff rules and good reports from interior, on new crops we have had recently, the prospect of our near future is encouraging. The result of the opening month of the 11th financial year has been very good. However, it is not to be understood that it is absolutely impossible for anyone to predict the future prospect especially at this time when conditions all over the world are so abnormal.

Machinery and plant in both spinning and weaving mills, have received our careful attention and having spent £84,487.56, as far as our note in the report, the entire installation is in excellent order. The increase in this figure compared with that of previous years is the result of more repairs of machinery parts for re-works from England. Throughout the year our Mills have run satisfactorily without any accident or stoppage. Spinning Mills were opened day and night and Weaving Mills daytime only.

Agents' Agreement.—This contract having expired last November, your Board have entered into a new agreement with M.B.K. for five years with option of renewal of further five years.

Before putting to the meeting the resolution for the adoption of the Report and Accounts, the Chairman invited questions, and Mr. H. Robertson then severely criticized the statement of accounts.

He stated that the accounts for the year ended June 30, 1919, were unsatisfactory and did not represent the real state of affairs. He dealt with the matter of carrying forward in the manner done of unsold stocks and remarked that the Company should have had a much better account and a better balance sheet, as compared with previous years, taking into consideration the fact that they were working with 23,000 additional spindles. He expressed the opinion that the amount allowed or depreciation was not nearly sufficient considering the condition of the original mills and machinery, and, dealing with the assets, said that the new mill and additions were all put into the balance sheet in a lump sum, whereas by this time they should have been itemized in detail.

Mr. S. E. Thomson having explained the nature of the balance sheet, Mr. Robertson said that he was of the opinion that the amount set aside for depreciation was positively inadequate. It was not only his opinion, but that of many shareholders with whom he had had conversation on the subject. He had intended to propose an amendment to the first resolution that the meeting be adjourned, but on looking round at the attendance he did not suppose that he would find a second. The shareholders had put up their money in 1914 like good sports and they were now told that they would have to wait until, at least, 1920 until the new mill was completely fitted with machinery.

Abs. stage Mr. H. C. Gulland proposed and Mr. N. Sakuma seconded a vote of confidence in the Directors, which was carried with only one dissent.

The necessary resolutions were carried.

REDUCING THE ARMY.

HALF PRESENT SIZE BY 1920.

PRE-WAR VOLUNTARY BASIS.

A memorandum on army policy was issued on July 16 by Mr. Churchill (Secretary for War). The pre-war voluntary army, it states, is being remade. The number of recruits and re-enlistments is already four times as great as the pre-war number, and if that rate was maintained it was likely that all men who had fought in the war would be replaced before the expiration of the new Military Service Act.

It was proposed to reduce the Rhine army from ten to two divisions; the Caucasus would be evacuated in the autumn; all troops in Russia, except volunteers for the military missions, would be brought home before the winter; and by the end of the year the British army, which was now 1,200,000 men, would be reduced to about one-half that strength.

It was necessary that the armies in the Middle East (including Egypt) and in India, should be maintained at full strength, and it was proposed to cover that by a system of replacement, but as from July 1 no conscript soldier would be sent to India or Mesopotamia and no Derby man would be sent farther from home than the Rhine.

Mr. Churchill's memorandum sums up the plan unfolded six months ago for demobilising the great army of the war period as being to let three men out of four go, and pay the fourth man double to finish the job, while Parliament made a law prolonging the compulsory military service of all men kept under this plan until April 30, 1920.

"Peace," adds Mr. Churchill, "is about to be ratified, and but for this law we should in a few days be absolutely defenceless and without any kind of military organisation. We should have thrown away not only all that we have worked so hard to gain in this great struggle, but also all that the British Empire had acquired before the war. It is lucky that we took the steps we did."

NOT A PLEDGE.

The memorandum proceeds:—"Meanwhile all the time the old pre-war voluntary army is being remade as fast as possible. Towards it we have already obtained 20,000 volunteers for periods varying from one to nine years. These men are being used to form 154 battalions, 254 batteries, and 91 cavalry regiments, in addition to other necessary units. Volunteering on the whole has been well maintained and has lately improved. The average weekly intake of recruits and re-enlistments is more than four times what the usual rate was before the war."

If this goes on it is likely that all men who actually fought in the field in the war will be released before the new Military Service Act expires, and it is hoped that a very large proportion will have been released by the end of the present year. Thus we should be able to provide for the defence of the British Empire in 1920 entirely by volunteers for the Regular Army and young recruits who did not join in time to share in the fighting.

The above is not a pledge, in any sense of the word, because no one can foresee what will happen, and Parliament must remain supreme to take whatever steps are necessary for common safety. It is, however, a very clear indication of what we are trying to bring about.

Already since the Armistice nearly three million men have been demobilised, leaving altogether in the army 1,200,000, including the 200,000 volunteer Regulars. These are distributed roughly as follows:

Army of the Rhine (including the troops in France and Flanders) 420,000
Army of the Black Sea 41,000
Army of the Middle East 105,000
Army of India (including demobilisable men from Mesopotamia temporarily detained in India) 76,000
Home Army (including Ireland, the Volunteer Regular Army now being formed, and about 165,000 non-effective, sick and awaiting demobilisation) 534,000
Detachments in Russia 17,000
Detachments in Italy 7,000

COMING HOME FROM RUSSIA.

We now propose, assuming that peace is ratified by August 1 next, to make further reductions as follows:—

The Army of the Rhine, which now consists of 10 divisions, will be reduced to two divisions by late autumn. This will effect a saving of about 150,000 men. The clearing up in France and Flanders is also proceeding well, and as soon as the German prisoners have been sent home the men who are guarding them will become available. Altogether by November 1 it is hoped that the force in France and Flanders will have been reduced by more than 400,000 men.

Owing to the evacuation of the Caucasus, which will take place in the autumn, the British troops in the army enforcing the peace on Turkey (and Bulgaria) will be reduced by 10,000 men. All troops in Russia, except those who volunteer to join the military missions, will be brought home before the winter, and those who were in North Russia during last winter will, it is anticipated, start

for home in September, excepting always such men as may volunteer to stay. Nearly 200,000 men will be released from the home establishment as German prisoners return home, wounded, recover, and demobilisation proceeds. Thus by the end of the year the British army will be reduced to about half that number.

There are two parts of the world, however, where we cannot at present reduce our armies at all. In the Middle East, including Egypt, and in India, where the Afghans and Bolshevik agents are making trouble, we must maintain our forces at full strength. But these are also the very places where there is the largest proportion of men who have been away from their homes for the longest time. As we cannot reduce these men we have to replace them.

It is expected that the Regular troops who are to form the permanent garrison of India will all be dispatched by the end of this year to replace the present temporary garrison. These Regular units are being sent out, two or three battalions every week, and they will replace an equal number of demobilised men whom we have hitherto been forced to retain in India. First among these to come home from India will be those who were already on their way from Mesopotamia and who were stopped in India on account of the outbreak there.

We have not yet however got enough volunteer Regular units ready to be able to provide relief of the troops for the armies in the Middle East, including Egypt. It is necessary, therefore, that drafts should be made up out of retainable men in the armies of occupation, who may become surplus on the Rhine or in France and Flanders or at home, to go out to the Middle East and relieve their comrades who have been away from home so much longer and are entitled to demobilisation. These reliefs will not however be kept abroad indefinitely. They will in their turn be relieved as soon as the Regular troops have been organised and can take over from them.

All sorts of suggestions have been made as to the order in which men should now be released from the army, and there are many hard cases both of compassionate and of pivotal, which deserve attention. But the time is getting short now. The end of the task is coming into sight, and it is better to keep up certain broad and simple rules which everybody can understand, even if individual cases of hardship are caused.

ORDER OF RELEASE.

The following therefore are the rules on which we shall now proceed:—

1.—Definite orders have been issued that all 1914 men, except those in India and any there may be in Russia, shall begin their journey home within one month of the signature of peace, namely, by July 28, and that all 1915 men and men over 37 years of age, except those in India and Russia, shall start for home within two months of the signature of peace, namely, by August 28.

All other men who are now desirous and eligible for demobilisation under existing regulations will start for home within three months of the signature of peace, namely, September 28.

The above programme of release will apply equally to men who, although demobilisable, have been hitherto retained for essential purposes usually described as "machinery of demobilisation," but will not, of course, apply to men who, although eligible for demobilisation, have volunteered to stay on for a period with the armies of occupation.

2.—All Derby men who joined the colours for service before July 1, 1916, excepting those in India and Russia, will have begun their journey home by November 1.

3.—All 1914-1915 men, and all Derby men who joined the colours before July 1, 1916 who are in India, will similarly have started for home by December 1, if not released earlier, provided always that no unexpected trouble occurs in that country.

4.—All troops in Russia who have not volunteered to join the missions will have started for home before the winter, as already explained.

5.—As from July 1 no conscript soldier will be sent to India or Mesopotamia and no Derby man will be sent further from home than the Army of the Rhine.

THE A. MAIL.

HONGKONG DEFENCE CORPS.

Administrative Orders by Major G. R. Williams, V.D., Acting Administrative Commandant.

STRENGTH.

No. 317 Private A. W. Miller, D. Company, is permitted to resign, on leaving the Colony, dated 5th September, 1919.

No. 220 Sapper H. J. Rowe, Engineer Company, is permitted to resign, on leaving the Colony, dated 8th September, 1919.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

Members of the Corps may in future, except when they have been detailed for duty, proceed to Canton, Macao and West River ports for a period not exceeding seven days without obtaining leave of absence but, before departure, they must notify their unit Commanders in writing who in turn will notify the Adjutant. Leave of absence to other places than the above must be obtained as before.

Orders for Engineer Company by Captain R. Hall.

D.E.L. INSTRUCTIONAL CLASSES.

Roomists will parade for D.E.L. instruction under R.E. Instructions. Benchers at 9 p.m. on Wednesday, 17th September. These classes are obligatory for all who have not passed for the "Proficient" (1/-) rating. Officer on duty: Lieut. V. Brown.

Those who wish to attend weekly classes for higher ratings should send in their names early to the C.Q.M.S., Engineer Company, H.K.D.C. Headquarters.

EXAMINATION FOR "PROFICIENT" QUALIFICATION.

The following is an extract from Orders by Colonel J. R. Young, Chief Engineer, Forces in China, dated 5th September, 1919:—

The undermentioned members of the Engineer Company, H.K.D.C., having obtained the "Proficient" Qualification as Electricians, will be granted Engineer Pay at 1/- per diem from the dates stated:—No. 750 Sapper W. B. Hind, from 23.7.19 inclusive; No. 803 Sapper C. A. Ribeiro, from 20.8.19 inclusive; No. 698 Sapper A. G. Marshall, from 20.8.19 inclusive.

Orders for Infantry Battalion by Major Williams, V.D., Officer Commanding.

ANNUAL MUSKETRY COURSE.

N.C.O.s and men who wish to fire their Musketty Course at the Peak Range in the early morning instead of at King's Park in the afternoon are requested to send their names to the Adjutant.

"A" COMPANY.

Tuesday, 16th Sept.—5.00 p.m. Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4 Platoons (N.C.O.s and men who have not fired these Practices) at King's Park Range. Annual Musketty Course, Part 1, Practice 4 and Part 2, Practices 5, 6, 7 and 12. Dress, drill order with pouches.

Friday, 19th Sept.—5.00 p.m. Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4 Platoons (N.C.O.s and men who have not fired these Practices) at King's Park Range. Annual Musketty Course, Part 2, Practices 8, 9, 10 and 11. Dress, drill order with pouches.

Sunday, 21st Sept.—8.30 a.m. No. 1 Platoon at King's Park Range. Annual Musketty Course, Part 2, Practices 5, 6, 7 and 12. Dress, drill order with pouches.

MOUNTED SECTION.

Tuesday, 16th Sept.—5.00 p.m. At King's Park Range. Annual Musketty Course, Part 1, Practice 4 and Part 2, Practices 5, 6, 7 and 12. Dress, drill order with pouches.

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SIGNALLING SECTION.

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ORDER FOR CIDER COMPANY BY MAJOR A. G. Dwyer.

Cadet W. Winterbottom is permitted to resign, on leaving the Colony, with effect from 1st September, 1919.

PARADE—BATHING.

Launch will leave Blake Pier on Wednesday, the 17th inst., at 5 p.m., and call at Kowloon 10 minutes later.

These will take place in the V.E.C. bath (by kind permission) on Saturday, 14th October, at 8.30 p.m. in

THE A. MAIL.

HONGKONG DEFENCE CORPS.

Administrative Orders by Major G. R. Williams, V.D., Acting Administrative Commandant.

STRENGTH.

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EXAMINATION FOR "PROFICIENT" QUALIFICATION.

The following is an extract from Orders by Colonel J. R. Young, Chief Engineer, Forces in China, dated 5th September, 1919:—

WEATHER REPORT.

September 12, 11.05 a.m. — Warning to Hongkong, Peking, Coast Ports, &c. — Typhoon in Lat. 15° N. Long. 125° E. direction W.N.W. velocity 8 to 12 m.p.h. September 12, 11.05 a.m. — No return from Vladivostok, Japan and Formosa. Pressure has decreased slightly over Indo-China and the Philippines. It has increased slightly over N.E. China where an anticyclone is now central. The depression to the east of the Philippines appears to be moving W. or W.N.W. At 6 a.m. this morning it was at about latitude 15° N. and longitude 125° E. Fresh monsoon will continue along the east coast of China. Hongkong rainfall for the 24 hours ending at 10 a.m. to-day, 0.17 inch. Total since January 1st, 67.83 inches, against an average of 60.92 inches. Forecast for the 24 hours ending at noon on September 13, 1919, 1.00 inch. 1. — Hongkong to Gap Rock. Strong S.W. winds, moderating; cloudy at first, clearing later. 2. — Formosa Channel. Strong N.E. winds, moderating. 3. — South coast of China between Hongkong and Lamook. The same as No. 1. 4. — South coast of China between Hongkong and Hainan. The same as No. 1.

ROYAL OBSERVATORY HONGKONG, DAILY WEATHER REPORT.

SEPTEMBER 12, 1919.—A.M.

Station	Hour	Barometer at Sea Level	Temperature	Humidity	Direction	Force	Wind
Tientsin	6 a.	30.00	78	75	—	—	—
Namur	6 a.	30.00	78	75	—	—	—
Harbin	6 a.	30.00	78	75	—	—	—
Yokohama	6 a.	30.00	78	75	—	—	—
Kobe	6 a.	30.00	78	75	—	—	—
Nagasaki	6 a.	30.00	78	75	—	—	—
Kanagawa	6 a.	30.00	78	75	—	—	—
Osaka	6 a.	30.00	78	75	—	—	—
Yokohama	6 a.	30.00	78	75	—	—	—
Yokohama	6 a.	30.00	78	75	—	—	—
Yokohama	6 a.	30.00	78	75	—	—	—
Yokohama	6 a.	30.00	78	75	—	—	—
Yokohama	6 a.	30.00	78	75	—	—	—
Yokohama	6 a.	30.00	78	75	—	—	—
Yokohama	6 a.	30.00	78	75	—	—	—
Yokohama	6 a.	30.00	78	75	—	—	—
Yokohama	6 a.	30.00	78	75	—	—	—
Yokohama	6 a.	30.00	78	75	—	—	—
Yokohama	6 a.	30.00	78	75	—	—	—
Yokohama	6 a.	30.00	78	75	—	—	—
Yokohama	6 a.	30.00	78	75	—	—	—
Yokohama	6 a.	30.00	78	75	—	—	—
Yokohama	6 a.	30.00	78	75	—	—	—
Yokohama	6 a.	30.00	78	75	—	—	—
Yokohama	6 a.	30.00	78	75	—	—	—
Yokohama	6 a.	30.00	78	75	—	—	—
Yokohama	6 a.	30.00	78	75	—	—	—
Yokohama	6 a.	30.00	78	75	—	—	—
Yokohama	6 a.	30.00	78	75	—	—	—
Yokohama	6 a.	30.00	78	75	—	—	—
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Yokohama	6 a.	30.00	78	75	—	—	—
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Yokohama	6 a.	30.00	78	75	—	—	—
Yokohama	6 a.	30.00	78	75	—	—	—
Yokohama	6 a.	30.00	78	75	—	—	—
Yokohama	6 a.	30.00	78	75	—	—	—
Yokohama	6 a.	30.00	78	75	—	—	—
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Yokohama	6 a.	30.00	78	75	—	—	—
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Yokohama	6 a.	30.00	78	75	—	—	—
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Yokohama	6 a.	30.00	78	75	—	—	—
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Yokohama	6 a.	30.00	78	75	—	—	—
Yokohama	6 a.	30.00	78	75	—	—	—
Yokohama	6 a.	30.00	78	75	—	—	—
Yokohama	6 a.	30.00	78	75	—	—	—
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Yokohama	6 a.	30.00	78	75	—	—	—
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Yokohama	6 a.	30.00	78	75	—	—	—
Yokohama	6 a.	30.00	78	75	—	—	—
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